SONY

3-751-701-21 (1)

Cassette-corder

TCM-38V

Operating Instructions

Before operating the unit, please read this manual thoroughly and retain it for future reference.

Owner's Record

The model number is located on the front panel and the serial number is located in the battery compartment. Record the serial number in the space provided below. Refer to these numbers whenever you call upon your Sony dealer regarding this product.

Model No. TCM-38V Serial No._____

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INFORMATION

This equipment generates and uses radio frequency energy and if not installed and used properly, that is, in strict accordance with the manufacturer's instructions, may cause interference to radio and television reception. It has been type tested and found to comply with the limits for a Class B computing device in accordance with the specifications in Subpart J of Part 15 of FCC Rules, which are designed to provide reasonable protection against such interference in a residential installation. However, there is no guarantee that interference will not occur in a particular installation. If this equipment does cause interference to radio or television reception, which can be determined by turning the equipment off and on, the user is encouraged to try to correct the interference by one or more of the following measures:

Reorient the receiving antenna
Relocate the equipment with respect to the receiver
Move the equipment away from the receiver
Plug the equipment into a different outlet so that equipment and receiver are on different branch circuits.

If necessary, the user should consult the dealer or an experienced radio/television technician for additional suggestions. The user may find the following booklet prepared by the Federal Communications Commission helpful:

"How to Identify and Resolve Radio-TV Interference Problems". This booklet is available from the U.S. Government Printing Office, Washington, DC 20402, Stock No.004-000-00345-4.

SONY®

AUDIO TAPE RECORDER
COMPACT DISC COMPACT PLAYER

LIMITED WARRANTY

SONY CORPORATION OF AMERICA ("SONY") warrants this product against defects in material or workmanship, as follows:

1. For a period of 90 days from the date of purchase, SONY will pay the labor charges of your SONY authorized service facility to repair the defective product. After this 90-day period, you must pay for all labor charges.
2. In addition, SONY will supply, at no charge, new or rebuilt replacements for defective parts for a period of 1 year from the original date of purchase.

Labor and Parts

To obtain warranty service during the initial 90-day period, you must take the product, or deliver the product prepaid, to a SONY authorized service facility.

Parts Only

During the remainder of the warranty period, any defective part will be replaced if it is taken, or delivered prepaid, to a SONY service center. Labor for removal and installation is available from your SONY authorized service facility or SONY service center, at your expense.

This warranty does not cover cosmetic damage, and damage due to acts of God, accident, misuse, abuse or negligence to the product, including the antenna. This warranty is valid only in the United States of America.

Proof of purchase in the form of a bill of sale or receipted invoice which is evidence that the unit is within the warranty period must be presented to obtain warranty service.

This warranty is valid only if the serial number appears on the product.

REPAIR OR REPLACEMENT AS PROVIDED UNDER THIS WARRANTY IS THE EXCLUSIVE REMEDY OF THE CONSUMER. SONY SHALL NOT BE LIABLE FOR ANY INCIDENTAL OR CONSEQUENTIAL DAMAGES FOR BREACH OF ANY EXPRESS OR IMPLIED WARRANTY ON THIS PRODUCT. EXCEPT TO THE EXTENT PROHIBITED BY APPLICABLE LAW, ANY IMPLIED WARRANTY OF MERCHANTABILITY OR FITNESS FOR A PARTICULAR PURPOSE ON THIS PRODUCT IS LIMITED IN DURATION TO THE DURATION OF THIS WARRANTY.

Some states do not allow the exclusion or limitation of incidental or consequential damages, or allow limitations on how long an implied warranty lasts, so the above limitations or exclusions may not apply to you. In addition, if you enter into a service contract with the Sony Partnership SM within 90 days of the date of sale, the limitation on how long an implied warranty lasts does not apply to you. This warranty gives you specific legal rights, and you may also have other rights which vary from state to state.

For your convenience, Sony Corporation of America has established the Customer Information Center to supply you with product or service information.

SONY CUSTOMER INFORMATION CENTER
201-930-SONY (7669)

or write to:

Sony Customer Information Center
Sony Drive, Mail Drop #M-1
Park Ridge, NJ 07656

SONY CORPORATION OF AMERICA
Sony Drive, Park Ridge, New Jersey 07656

Sony Service Centers

Arizona

Phoenix
2240 North Scottsdale Road
Tempe, AZ 85281
(602) 949-7669

California

Burbank (Los Angeles area)
4100 Riverside Drive, Suite A
Burbank, CA 91505
(818) 842-7669

Costa Mesa (Orange County area)
2729 Bristol Street South
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
(714) 549-4833

San Bruno (San Francisco area)
751 Camino Plaza
San Bruno, CA 94066
(415) 871-2810

San Diego
8975 Complex Drive
San Diego, CA 92123
(619) 279-2724

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1359 Old Oakland Road
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 280-7669

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10740 East Iliff Avenue
Aurora, CO 80014
(303) 755-7669

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2850 North 28th Terrace
Hollywood, FL 33020
(305) 920-5600

Georgia

Atlanta
120 Interstate North Parkway East
Suite 410
Atlanta, GA 30339
(404) 953-5871

Hawaii

Honolulu
950 Mapunapuna Street
Honolulu, HI 96819
(808) 834-6622

Illinois

Niles (Chicago N.W.)
7540 North Caldwell Avenue
Niles, IL 60648
(312) 647-2400

Westmont (Chicago S.W.)
6036-38 South Cass Avenue
Westmont, IL 60559
(312) 969-0049

Kansas

Kansas City
11712 West 95th Street
Overland Park
KS 66214
(913) 888-2622

Maryland (Washington D.C.)

Washington D.C.
1358 Hotton Lane
Langley Park, MD 20783
(301) 439-3500/01

Massachusetts

Boston
390 University Avenue
128 Westwood Industrial Center
Westwood, MA 02090
(617) 329-5130

Michigan

Detroit
43304 Eleven Mile Road
Novi, MI 48050
(313) 344-4044

Minnesota

Minneapolis
4300 W. 36th Street
St. Louis Park, MN 55416
(612) 920-8000

Missouri

St. Louis
12462-D Natural Bridge Road
Bridgeton, MO 63044
(314) 291-2201

New Jersey

Mahwah (N.Y. Metropolitan Area)
386 Route 17 South
Mahwah, NJ 07430
(201) 529-1555

Ohio

Cleveland
6370 York Road
Parma Heights, OH 44130
(216) 845-7669

Pennsylvania

Philadelphia
651 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(215) 768-8850

Pittsburgh
Wexford Plaza
10810 Perry Highway (Rt. 19N)
Wexford, PA 15090
(412) 935-8466

Texas

Dallas
401 Preston Valley Shopping Center
Dallas, TX 75230
(214) 661-3537

Houston
5747 Richmond Avenue
Houston, TX 77057
(713) 783-8761

Washington

Seattle
835 Fidalgo
Seattle, WA 98108
(206) 762-6900

Sony District Service Offices

Western Zone

Western District
Sony Service Company
2729 Bristol Street South
Costa Mesa, CA 92626
(714) 549-4836

Northwestern District
Sony Service Company
1359 Old Oakland Road
San Jose, CA 95112
(408) 280-7675

Southwestern District
Sony Service Company
3201 Premier Dr., Suite 100
Irving, TX 75063
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Central Zone

Mid-West District
Sony Service Company
7540 North Caldwell Avenue
Niles, IL 60648
(312) 647-2424

East Central District
Sony Service Company
26200 Town Center Drive,
Suite 300 Novi, MI 48050
(313) 347-2251

Eastern Zone

Eastern District
Sony Service Company
386 Route 17 South
Mahwah, NJ 07430
(201) 529-1616

Mid-Atlantic District
Sony Service Company
651 Park Avenue
King of Prussia, PA 19406
(215) 768-8645

Southeastern District
Sony Service Company
120 Interstate North Parkway East
Suite 410
Atlanta, GA 30339
(404) 953-5858

Features

- TIR (Time Index Recording) function shows the date and time of recording on the display window during tape playback.
- VOR (Voice Operated Recording) system economizes on tapes, batteries and your time.
- 3-digit tape counter helps you to locate a desired portion on the tape.
- You can start recording directly from the playback mode. This function is convenient to correct a previously recorded portion.
- Automatic shut-off mechanism

What is TIR (Time Index Recording) function?
The current date and time of your recording is automatically memorized on the tape during recording.
When you play back the tape, the recorded date and time appear on the display window. You can easily identify the tape on which a conference or a lecture is recorded referring to your diary or memory.

What is VOR (Voice Operated Recording) system?
With this system, recording starts only when sound is picked up and stops automatically when sound is no longer detected.

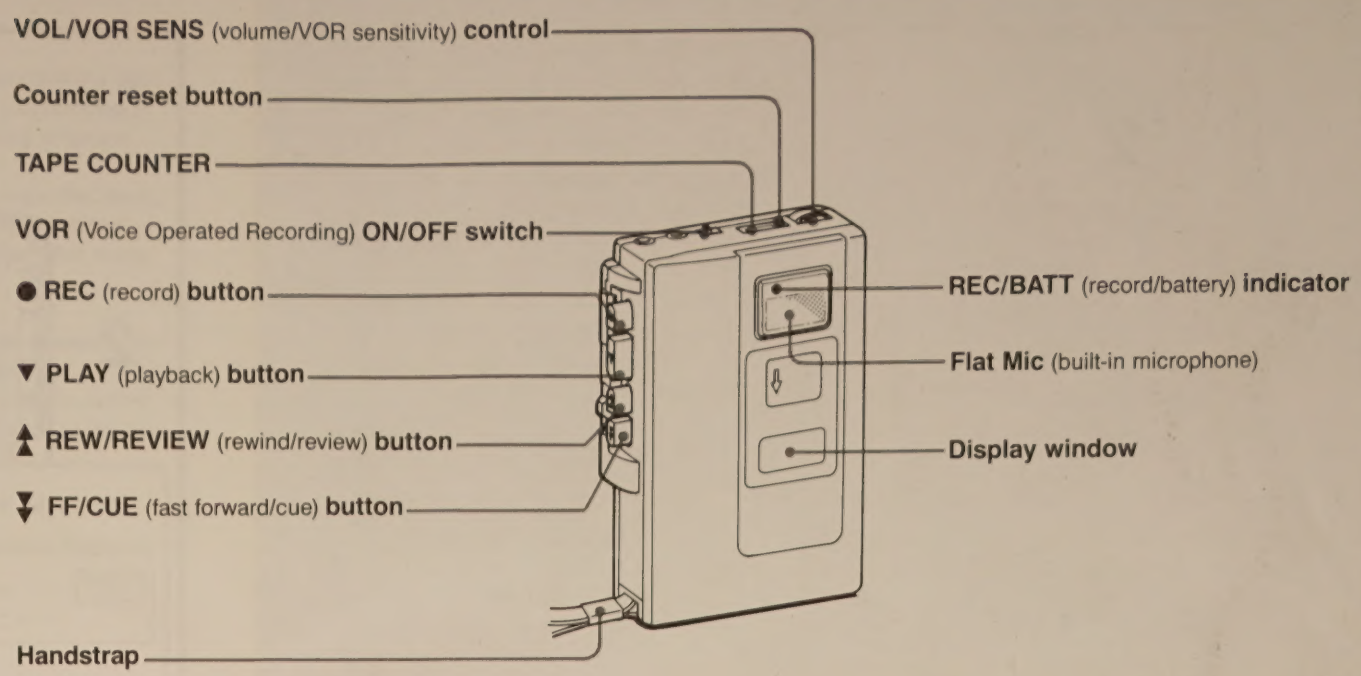
Precautions

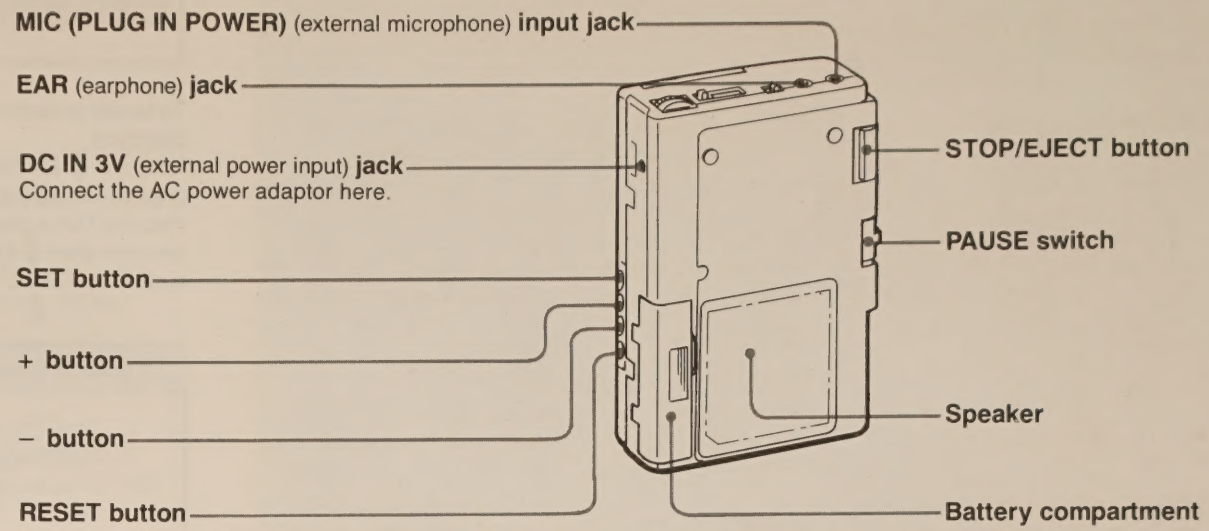
On operation
- Operate the unit on 3 V DC.
  For AC operation or car battery operation, use accessories recommended for the unit.
- Do not leave the unit in a location near heat sources, in a place subject to direct sunlight, excessive dust, sand, moisture, rain, mechanical shock, temperature below 5°C (41°F), or in a car with its windows closed.
- If the unit has not been used for a long time, set it in playback mode and warm it up for a few minutes before inserting a cassette.
- Should any solid object or liquid fall into the unit, remove the batteries and disconnect the AC power adaptor, and have the unit checked by qualified personnel before operating it any further.
- Since a strong magnet is used for the speaker, keep personal credit cards using magnetic coding or spring-wound watches away from the unit to prevent possible damage from the magnet.

Note on cassettes longer than 90 minutes
The use of cassettes longer than 90 minutes is not recommended except for long continuous playback or recording.

If you have any question or problem concerning your unit that is not covered in this manual, please consult your nearest Sony dealer.

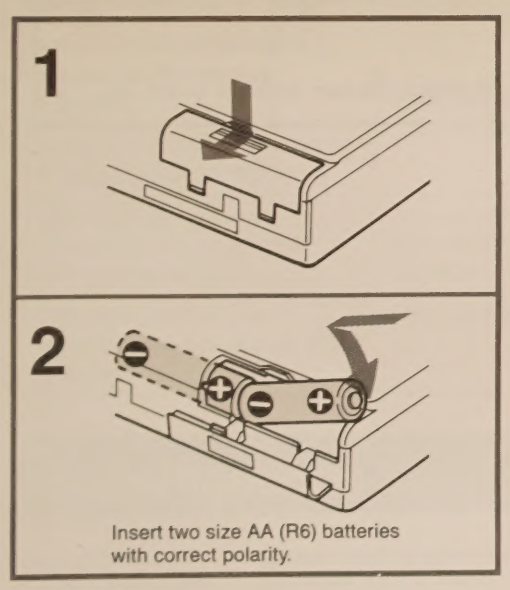
Parts Identification





Press this button with a ballpoint pen or a similar object after battery replacement or when the date/time set buttons (SET, +/–) do not function.
(Do not use something that breaks easily, such as the lead point of a pencil.)

Installing Batteries

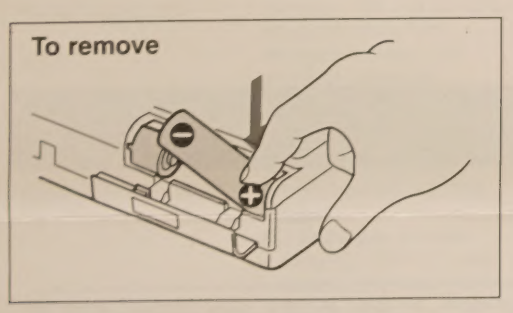


Insert two size AA (R6) batteries with correct polarity.

Battery replacement
During tape playback, when the REC/BATT indicator glows faintly and sound becomes distorted or unstable, replace both batteries with new ones. On battery life and other power sources, see "Specifications".

To keep the preset date and time
Replace the batteries **within one hour**.
The memories of the current time will be erased about one hour after the batteries are removed.

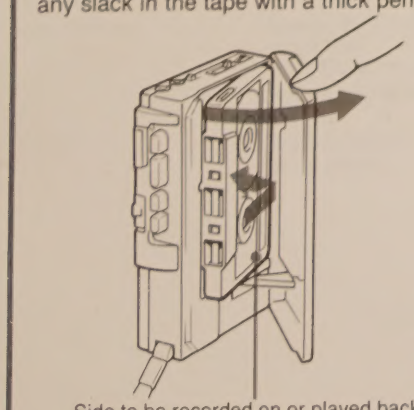
To remove



If the date/time set buttons (SET, +/–) do not function or wrong indications appear on the display window after replacing the batteries
Press the RESET button. The indications in the display window will be cleared. Set the current date and time again. See "How to Set the Date/Time".

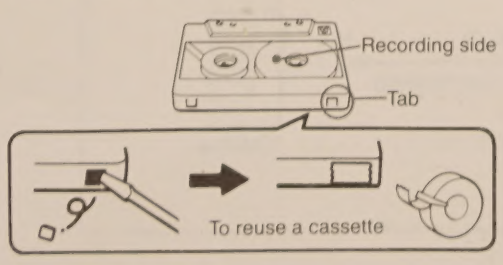
Inserting a Cassette

Before inserting the cassette, take up any slack in the tape with a thick pencil.



Side to be recorded on or played back

To prevent accidental erasure
Break out the tab corresponding to the side to be recorded on.
Recording on that side will be protected.

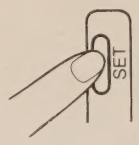


To eject the cassette
Be sure to open the cassette compartment lid first, and then press the STOP/EJECT button.

How to Set the Date/Time

First, stop the tape with the STOP/EJECT button.
You cannot set the clock during tape playback or recording.
Example: To set the date/time to 1:05 p.m. (i.e. 13:05), December 27, 1990

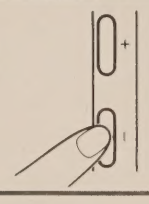
1



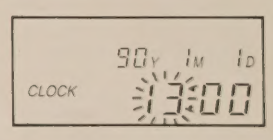
Keep the SET button pressed more than three seconds to make the hour digit blink.

The clock indication of the factory preset mode is the 24 hour-system. (Choose the 12- or 24-hour indication in step 4.)

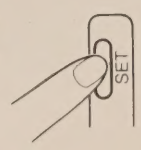
2



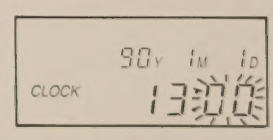
Set the hour by pressing the + or – button.
When the + or – button is kept pressed, the digits advance rapidly.



3

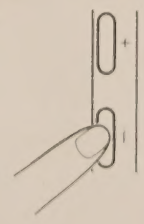


Press the SET button to make the minute digits blink.

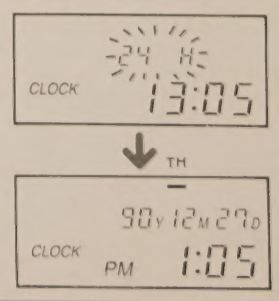


Set the minute, month, day, and year in the same way.
First adjust the blinking item with + or – button, and then press the SET button. (The day of the week is automatically set when the year, month and the day are registered.)

4



Choose the 12- or 24-hour indication by pressing the + or – button.
(A blinking "12H" or "24H" alternately appears with each press of the + or – button.)
Then press the SET button.
The date and time have been set completely. The clock will now start.

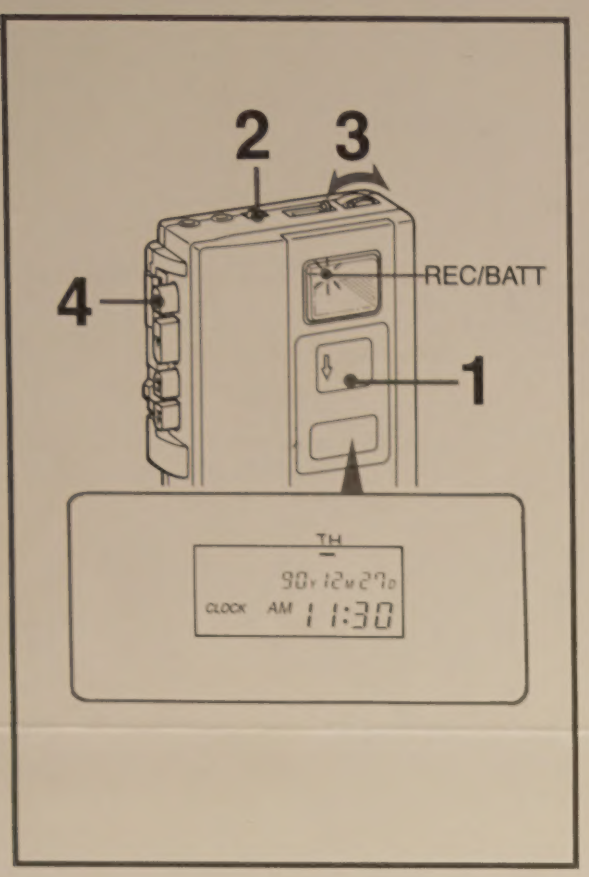


To change the date/time
Keep the SET button pressed for more than three seconds. (The hour digits start blinking.) Press the SET button several times to make the digit you want to change blink. After changing the number, press the SET button several times until the clock begins to operate.

12-hour indication
AM 12:00 = Midnight
PM 12:00 = Noon

24-hour indication
0:00 = Midnight
12:00 = Noon

Recording with the Built-in Microphone



1 **Insert a cassette.**

2 **Set the VOR switch.**
ON: for VOR recording (See below.)
OFF: for non-VOR recording

3 **Adjust the sensitivity level**
(For VOR recording only)
Normally set the VOL/VOR SENS control between 4 and 6.
To record low-level sound, turn it toward 10.

4 **Depress the ● REC button.**
The ▼ PLAY button is depressed automatically and recording starts.

To stop the tape, press the STOP/EJECT button.

No recording level adjustment is necessary.
The sound to be recorded can be listened to with an earphone (sold separately).

Recording with the TIR (Time Index Recording) function
The date and time of the recording is automatically memorized on the tape when recording is continued for 10 seconds or more. (The display shows current date and time during recording. The mark ":" between the hour digits and the minute digits stops blinking during recording.)

Note
The TIR function activates only when recording has been done for 10 seconds or more.

Sony VOR (Voice Operated Recording) system
With this system, the recording starts only when sound is picked up and stops automatically when the sound is no longer detected. A sound is picked up only when it is higher than the preset level.

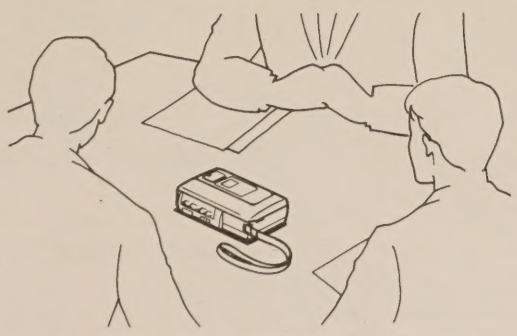
Note:
Recording cannot be made when the VOL/VOR SENS control is set to 0 in VOR recording.

To review the portion just recorded
Simply depress the ▲ REW/REVIEW button while recording.
By releasing the ▲ REW/REVIEW button, the recorder will go into the playback mode for review of the recorded material.
To start recording again, depress the ● REC button.

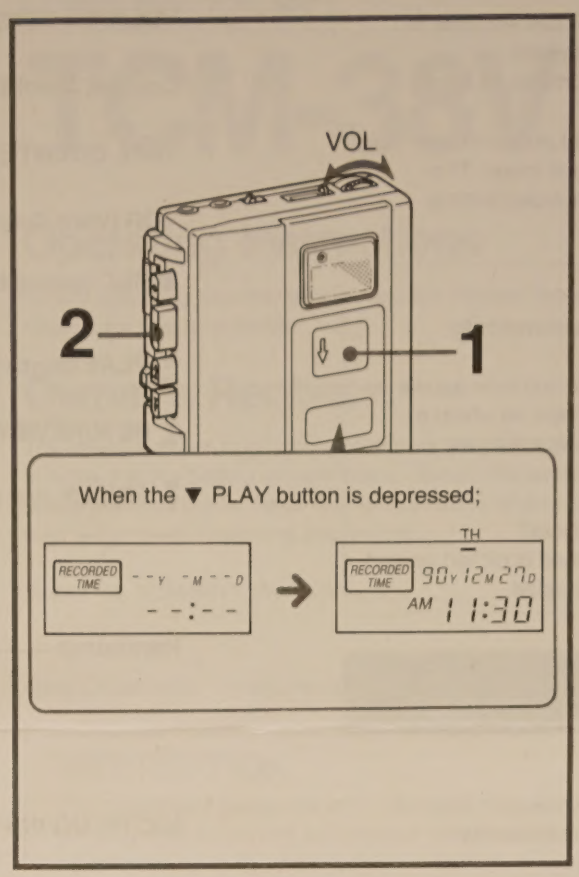
To correct a previously recorded portion
During playback, simply depress the ● REC button and the recorder will immediately change to the recording mode.

Notes
- Do not press the built-in microphone forcibly.
- When monitoring with the earphone, do not set the volume too high. Otherwise, a howling effect may occur.
- Make sure that nothing is connected to the MIC jack. Otherwise, recording with the built-in microphone cannot be made.
- For optimum recording or playback, use only TYPE I tapes.

To pick up the speaker's voice more clearly at the conference
Place the unit on a table horizontally for maximum performance of the built-in flat microphone (Sony Boundary Effect system).



Tape Playback

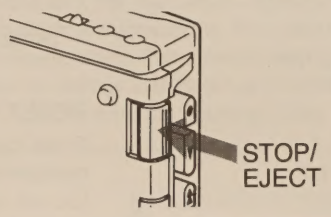
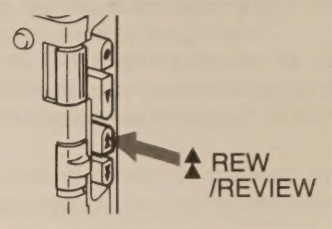
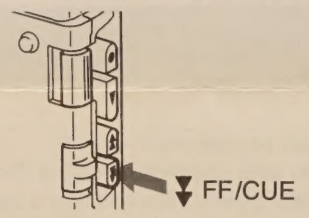
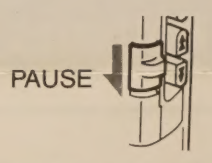


1 **Insert a cassette.**

2 **Depress the ▼ PLAY button.**
The date and time of recording (RECORDED TIME) will appear on the display window after a while.
However, the time after which the display comes on may vary according to the recording condition.

If you stop the tape by pressing the STOP/EJECT button, the display will go back to the current time indication after approx. 15 seconds.

To locate a desired position during tape playback
Keep the ▼ FF/CUE or ▲ REW/REVIEW button pressed during playback.
Recorded time display will remain approx. 20 seconds after ▼ FF/CUE or ▲ REW/REVIEW button is pressed.

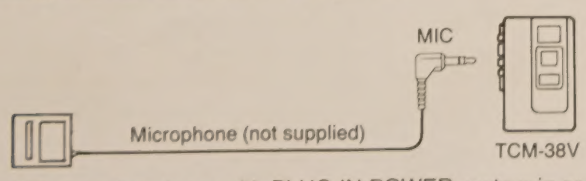
To stop the tape	To rewind the tape
	
To advance the tape rapidly	**To stop the tape momentarily**
	 To restart the tape, slide the switch up.

Recording from Various Sound Sources

To record, depress the ● REC button of the TCM-38V after completing the connections and preparations.

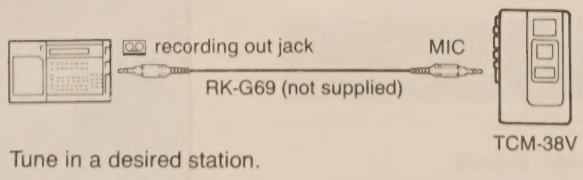
Connections/Preparations

Recording with an external microphone



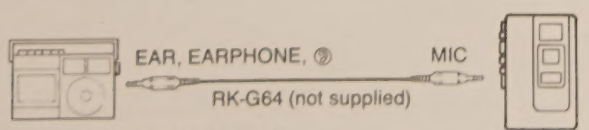
When a microphone with PLUG IN POWER system is connected, power is supplied to the microphone from TCM-38V.

Recording from a radio or TV equipped with a recording jack



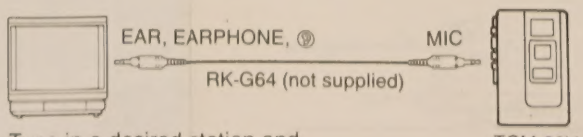
Tune in a desired station.

Dubbing from another cassette-corder



Set it in the playback mode and adjust it to your normal listening level.

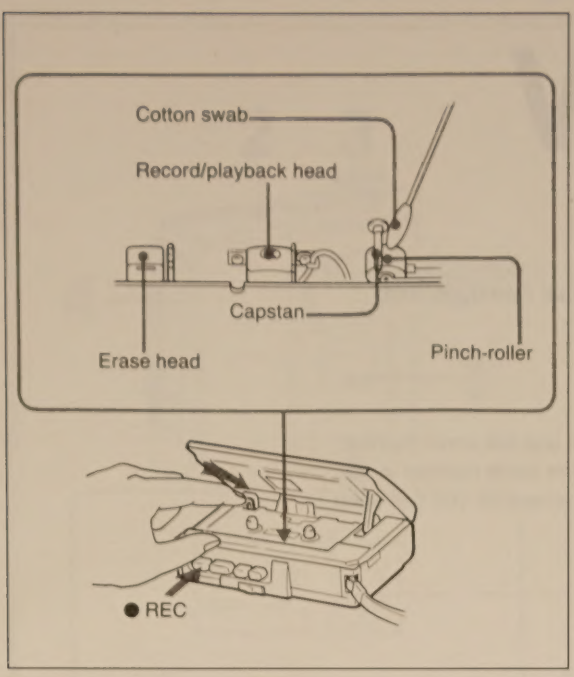
Recording from a radio or TV equipped with an earphone jack



Tune in a desired station and adjust the radio or TV to a normal listening level.

If your radio, TV, etc., is not a Sony product, refer to the instruction manual of that unit.

Maintenance



Cleaning the heads
Prolonged use may contaminate the tape heads and the tape path. Contamination causes insufficient recording or sound drop-outs in playback.
To enjoy optimum sound, wipe the heads, capstan and pinch-roller with a cotton swab moistened with alcohol after every 10 hours of use.

While pressing the lever as shown in the illustration, depress the ● REC button for easier access. After cleaning, be sure to press the STOP/EJECT button to release the depressed buttons.

Cleaning the case
Do not use alcohol, benzine or thinner to clean the case.

Troubleshooting Guide

Trouble	Causes (remedy)
Cassette cannot be inserted.	The ▼ PLAY button is depressed.
The ● REC button cannot be depressed.	• No cassette is in the cassette compartment. • The cassette inserted has had the tabs removed. Cover the slot with a small piece of plastic tape.
The ▼ PLAY button cannot be locked.	The tape is completely wound towards the arrow direction on the cassette compartment lid. Rewind the tape with the ▲▲ REW/ REVIEW button.
Tape does not move.	• Incorrect polarity of batteries • Weak batteries • The PAUSE switch is slid down. • Battery operation is attempted while the AC power adaptor or car battery cord is connected to the recorder but not to the wall outlet or the cigarette lighter socket.
No sound from the speaker	• An earphone is plugged in. • The VOL control is turned down completely.
Weak or distorted sound, sound dropouts, or excessive noise	• Weak batteries. See "Installing Batteries". • Dirty heads. See "Maintenance".
No indication appears.	
Recording cannot be made or is unsatisfactory.	Improper connection. See "Recording from Various Sound Sources".
The wrong indications appear on the display window.	Press the RESET button. (The indications will be cleared. See "How to Set the Date/Time")
No buttons function to set or change the indications.	
The date and time of recording do not appear during playback.	The recording time may be less than 10 seconds. For the TIR function, it is necessary to record continuously for 10 seconds or more.
The date and time of recording do not appear after a while.	Damaged tape. Use proper tapes.

Specifications

Recording system: 2-track 1-channel monaural
Frequency response: 200-8,000 Hz (For normal tape TYPE I)
Power output (DC): Speaker: 180 mW (at 10% harmonic distortion)
Input: Microphone input jack (minijack) sensitivity 0.2mV, for 3kΩ or lower impedance microphone
Output: Earphone jack (minijack) for 8 – 300 Ω earphone
Power requirements: 3V DC, two size AA (R6) batteries
DC IN 3V jack accepts:
• Sony AC-D2M AC power adaptor (not supplied) for use on 120 V AC, 60 Hz
• Sony DCC-70 car battery cord (not supplied) for use on 12 V car battery

Battery life (hours)

Batteries	Recording
Sony batteries SUM-3 (NS)	Approx. 2
Sony alkaline batteries AM3 (N)	Approx. 7

Dimensions: Approx. 90.9 × 134.5 × 38.8 mm(w/h/d) ($3\frac{5}{8} \times 5\frac{3}{8} \times 1\frac{9}{16}$ inches) incl. projecting parts and controls
Weight: Approx. 320g (11.3 oz) incl. batteries

Optional accessories
AC power adaptor AC-D2M
Car battery cord DCC-70
Electret condenser microphone ECM-F01
Monaural earphone ME-81
Connecting cord RK-G64, RK-G69

Your dealer may not handle some of the above listed optional accessories.
Please ask the dealer for detailed information.

Note
Use only the recommended AC power adaptor or car battery cord manufactured by Sony. Polarity of the plugs of other manufacturers may be different.

Polarity of the TCM-38V plug

Design and specifications subject to change without notice.